

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Health and Hospitals Office of the Secretary Bureau of Health Services Financing

Community Care Program—Physician Management Fee

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing has adopted the following emergency rule in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 46:153 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act and as directed by the 1996-97 General Appropriation Act, which states: "The Secretary shall implement reductions in the Medicaid program as necessary to control expenditures to the level approved in this schedule. The Secretary is hereby directed to utilize various cost containment measures to accomplish these reductions, including but not limited to pre-certification, pre-admission screening, and utilization review, and other measures as allowed by federal law". This emergency rule is adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq. and shall be in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Administrative Procedure Act or until adoption of the rule, whichever occurs first.

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing currently provides reimbursement to primary care physicians who are enrolled as physician managers in the Community Care Waiver Program to insure that the recipient under their care receive the appropriate hospital and specialty care as well as primary care. These physicians are reimbursed a \$5 management fee per month per Medicaid recipient enrolled in the Community Care Program. The bureau has now determined it is necessary to reduce this physician management fee. The following emergency rule has been adopted to reduce the physician management fee under the Community Care Waiver Program from \$5 to \$2 per recipient. This action is necessary to avoid a budget deficit in the medical assistance programs. It is anticipated that implementation of this emergency rule will save approximately \$1,632,645.00 for state fiscal year 1996-1997.

Emergency Rule

Effective for dates of service July 1, 1996 and thereafter, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing reduces the physician management fee in the Community Care Waiver Program to \$2 per enrolled recipient per month.

Interested persons may submit written comments to: Thomas D. Collins, Bureau of Health Services Financing, Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030. He is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this emergency rule.

Bobby P. Jindal
Secretary

9607#003